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No. 4

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Is it not the old poem about St. Nick which concludes with, "... and a merry Christmas to all?" And so we would conclude these, our Christmas greetings to our thousands of readers, scattered as they are throughout this and other lands. But we would first wish for them:

A SAVING KNOWLEDGE of the Gift of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, whom to know is life eternal. For without this knowledge of Him, without a heart acceptance of His love and of His sacrifice on Calvary's cross, there can be no realization of "... a merry Christmas to all."

A SERVING GRATITUDE to the Lord Jesus Christ, whose presence in our lives is the open door of prayer, the overflowing basket of supply, the healing ointment of comfort, and the flowing wine of joy—the assurance of "... a merry Christmas to all."

A LOVING EXPECTATION of His coming. For come again He shall to receive unto Himself for all eternity those who know Him.

Our Christmas wish then, for each of our readers, a saving knowledge, a serving gratitude, and a loving expectation—these, indeed, are the making of "... a merry Christmas to all."

GIFTS FOR THE KING!

A unique service is to be held in the Bryan University Chapel on the afternoon of December fifteenth, the last day of the current quarter. At that time almost the entire student body and staff will join in prayer and fellowship for a service in which to present their Gifts for the King, gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

In addition to the Bryan Family of some two hundred fifty, over seventeen thousand others are invited to attend. Though it is expected that but few of these will be present in person, it is anticipated that many will come "by mail," sending their gifts for the King to be opened at the service in the presence of the entire family. The gifts will be of gold—material gifts; of frankincense—a word of encouragement or testimony; of myrrh—a verse of scripture.

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THE NEW ORGAN

Mrs. Marget McGowan, piano and organ instructor, becomes acquainted with the new Baldwin, while Robert Birch, President Rudd, Ross King, Professor Fish, Nola Bookamer, and Ruth Ann Adams enjoy the strains of "Open the Gates of the Temple."

ORGAN INSTALLED

Just in time to be used at the Thanksgiving service, the beautiful Baldwin Electronic Organ was installed on the twenty-fourth and put into use that night for the first time. It is the consensus of the entire group that the Lord has, indeed, answered prayer and has given to the University an instrument that can be used to His glory, both as a means of training workers for Him and as a means of providing the dignity and beauty which an organ gives to a worship service.

Representatives of the Lansford Piano Company, of Chattanooga, from whom the organ was purchased and by means of whom it was installed, remarked that the installation was one of the finest they had ever made and that the location and size of the tone chamber were such as to assure perfect tone color and volume.

THANKSGIVING AT BRYAN

The notes of praise which poured forth from the new electronic organ as the Bryan family and guests walked into the Memorial Chapel thrilled the hearts of each one in attendance and prepared the way for a wonderful Thanksgiving praise service. The song service, capably led by Don Oakley, was the outpouring of grateful hearts to God "from whom all blessings flow." When the song leader asked for promises from the Word of God for which to give thanks, the majority of the audience stood to read some that were especially precious to each of them. This was culminated by personal testimonies of many, including those given by visiting graduates, some of whom were Edgar Lieb, Elaine Christy, and LaVerne Howland, who told of the Lord's continued guidance in their lives.

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THE PRACTICAL VALUES OF CHRIST'S RETURN

DEAN NORMAN H. UPHOUSE

The truth concerning the return of Christ for His own has constituted one of the most practical doctrines of the Bible. It has had a practical value to the saints of all ages, even though many lived and died without witnessing the actual return of Christ. While they did live, their belief in the imminent return was a help to them. It made them live better than they would have lived without it. This is true of our generation. We have an incentive for clean living in the belief of Christ's near return. It might be well for us to be reminded that this generation could be the most favored of all; Christ may have our generation in mind as He leaves heaven to call the saints upward. At least, this is our hope and desire.

One of the values of the truth has been referred to as that of clean living. Thus, we may put down its first practical value.

I. It Is Purifying and Transforming.

The testimonies of saved folk have indicated that the light on the second coming of Christ was almost equal to the original conversion. The acceptance of it was revolutionary to daily conduct. We might expect one to have a new view on life, once he sees the possibility of Christ's coming at any time.

In 1 John 3:3 there is a reference to those having the hope of the Lord's return, who also will purify themselves. To believe that the Lord will come suddenly and at a time the world is not looking for Him is reason enough for us to be careful in our living and to be on the watch for Him.

James points out that the doctrine of the second coming will develop patience in the believer (James 5:7). We can endure much more now, knowing that things will be better when we are with the Lord. The Christian believer rests upon the promises of God, and this blessed hope is one of the promises.

II. It Is a Safeguard Against Error.

It is interesting to note that one correct in his views on the Lord's return is usually correct on all major doctrines of the Bible. Great doctrines have a point of convergence and a point of divergence in the second coming, which has been considered as the focal point of all prophecy. Let other doctrines and other predictions be squared off against this one

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PRESIDENT RUDD TRAVELS

During the last week of November, President Rudd visited friends of the University in Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina. In a recent Chapel program he told of happy times of fellowship enjoyed in Atlanta and Macon, Georgia, in Deland and other places in Florida, where he was able to spend some time with the parents of students from that state, as well as with other friends who have been praying for the University for many years.

great teaching. If they do not harmonize with the second coming, they are not safe to follow.

III. It Disperses Discouragement.

It would be discouraging to see hopes dashed to the ground unfulfilled. If our heaven is only on the earth, then the good that comes to us in this life does not balance with the amount of sorrow and grief we receive. If, on the other hand, we can be sure of heaven, we can be glad that there are better things ahead. We can see sin at work in the world and rise above it because our hope is in Christ. We know that the present sufferings are not worthy to be compared with the glory to be revealed at His coming.

IV. It Quickens Missionary Activity.

The return of Christ is a combination of certainty and uncertainty: It is certain to come; it is uncertain as to the time. We cannot know the time of His coming. We do know that He has commanded us to carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth. As we see the time growing short, we feel constrained to speed up the evangelization of the world.

We may gain the lesson from the story of the man who took a journey into a far country and charged his workers to occupy until he returned: At last he did return and required a settlement with each one.

V. It Is the Signal for the Rewarding of the Saints.

Jesus said "The meek shall inherit the earth." Then, too, there will be rewards for faithfulness which cannot be thought of in terms of the material. They will be spiritual blessings. Soul-winners will receive a crown suitable for them and in keeping with their work. Other crowns will be given as the Lord remembers His own.

There is so much wrapped up in the doctrine of the return of Christ that we long for it to become a reality in our generation.

Seniors Do It Again

"Sh-h-h! Hurry up and get in quick! Come on! Let's get out of here before anyone comes! Yes, we have everything, don't we? Everyone here? No one was caught? Oh, wonderful! Let's go then!" . . . And so, on the night of November twelfth, the Senior Class, with their sponsor, Dean Ryther, began from their meeting place, the "Shady Nook Tourist Home" in Dayton, Tennessee, the sneaky trip to Cumberland State Park, bidding a "quiet" goodbye to the Junior Class of Bryan University.

After seemingly endless hours of travel, they reached their destination and there in the Lodge of the Park, Henry Moeller, who had gone earlier than the rest, had a glowing fire in the large fireplace all ready for the arrival of the rest of the class.

Even though the beds were "slightly" cold, everyone had a good night's rest and welcomed the sight of Dean Ryther's "buckin'wheat" cakes the next morning for breakfast.

By the way, because of the three main cooks, Jane Helmick, Dean Ryther, and Royal Grote, the Seniors had three days of a variety of known and unknown "dishes," prepared and eagerly eaten by all.

As the first day was spent rather strenuously in boating, picture taking, short walks, and other activities, the class decided to spend a calm evening and so resorted to playing "tame" games such as "Basket Upside Down," "Concentration," "Predictaments and Remedies," and others.

Each received a spiritual blessing Sunday morning as the class held their own church service in the Lodge. Henry Moeller, a prospective missionary, and Bill Bishop, a prospective preacher, each gave a short message, which with special musical numbers, testimonies, and group singing, made up the program of the morning.

Everyone felt rather reluctant on Monday as preparations were being made to leave the beloved Lodge.

The sneakers returned by way of Falls Creek Falls, and then to Cane Creek Falls, where they had the last meal of the sneak, a weiner roast, with cookies, marshmallows, and apples thrown in on the side.

The journey was then continued and the loud blaring of car horns brought forth juniors, *et al*, to welcome the travelers back to Bryan Hill. So ended another successful sneak, for the Seniors had done it again—the fourth class in a row of successes.

—N. B.

THANKSGIVING HIKERS



A group of hikers pause on the banks of Richland Creek en route to Laurel Falls and enjoy Thanksgiving bag lunches. They'll be ready for that turkey dinner when they reach the Hill.

STUDENTS ENTERTAIN SELVES

The night of November thirtieth marked the annual event of Open House, a time when the three dormitories are thrown open to staff, students and friends and when the young men and the young women discover that the other sex do know something about domestic activities such as sweeping.

To avoid the probable rush of allowing each one to go his separate way, the group was divided into parties and each party given a host from the dormitory to be visited. In this way, each dormitory was visited by some twelve or fifteen groups of eight to twelve people, the guide or host taking his group into each room in the dormitory and then returning them to be exchanged for a party just back from another dormitory.

Needless to say, rooms were all spick and span and attractively "dressed" for the occasion. Prizes were awarded to the rooms in each dormitory ranked as first and second in attractiveness and homelike atmosphere.

Following the conducted tours, the entire group met in the old chapel for a period of music presenting the theme, "Our Heavenly Home." This was followed by a period of refreshments, which included Russian Tea and cake.



**A Merry Christmas
to All from M.S.M.**

CHRISTMAS BANQUET PLEASES

Under the supervision of Mrs. Norman Uphouse, Social Chairman, and her staff and student committee, the annual Christmas banquet proved to be one of the most enjoyable of the social events held so far this year.

Tables were decorated in conventional Christmas colors of red and green, decorations in the windows of the dining hall following somewhat the same theme with candelabra of white candles flickering against the reflecting window pane.

Guest speaker for the occasion was a friend of the University of long standing, Dr. H. E. Wright, evangelist from Rome, Georgia. His message, as has always been true when he has come to Bryan Hill, was timely and Christ-centered, a source of blessing and challenge to his listeners.

Thinking our readers might be interested in just what constitutes a Bryan Christmas banquet, we are glad to print both the menu and the program. The fellowship that surrounds and permeates the entire banquet cannot be placed on paper, nor can it be described in print; it is but an earnest of that greater eternal fellowship yet to come.

MENU			
Chicken	Chilled Tomato Juice		
Croquettes		Parsley Sauce	
Candied Sweets		Garden Peas	
Cranberry Jelly		Hot Rolls	
Christmas Salad			
Ice Cream			
PROGRAM			
Coffee		Mints	
Prayer	Prof. Green		
Greetings and Introduction of Toastmaster			
	President Rudd		
Response	Dean Ryther		
Vocal Duet	Gene Kury and Roselyn Franklin		

WHERE ARE THE NINE?

Gratitude to God for His material and spiritual blessings is reflected in our giving. As when Christ was here on earth, only a small proportion return "to give glory to God." Think of what it would mean if the other nine joined in the tenth in a thank-offering to God.

On the basis of receipts issued, only 341 of our friends responded to the pressing financial needs of the University during November by contributing \$6,045.67 for the best gift income since the fiscal year started on June first. The average gift was between seventeen and eighteen dollars, but if every friend on the mailing list had given a thank-offering of only one dollar, the total gift income would have been nearly three times as much. Think of what the other nine could do.

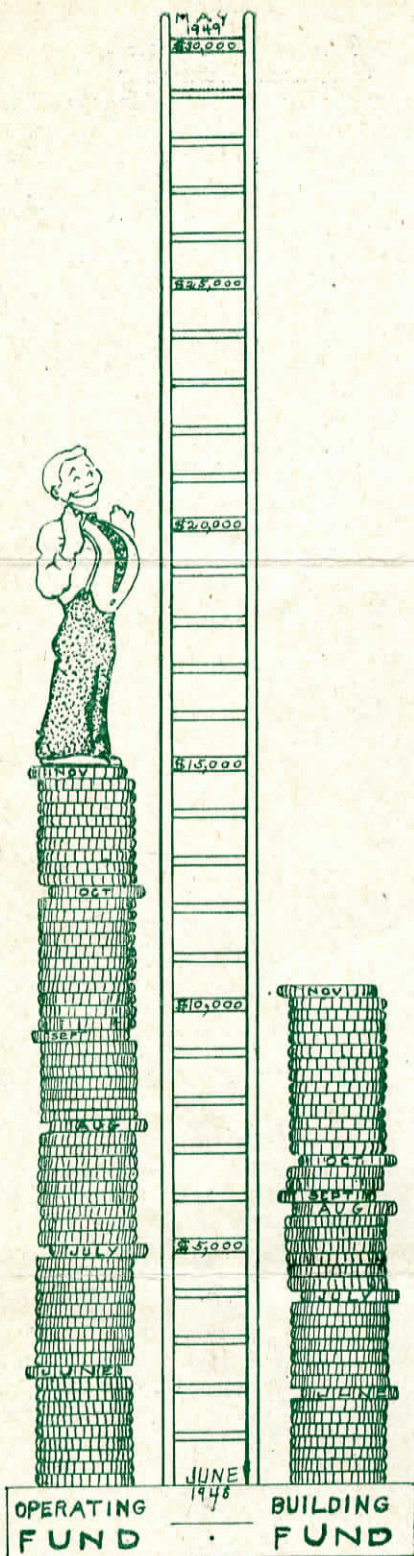
The larger gift income during November definitely reflects sacrificial giving on the part of larger donors. Approximately the same number of contributors gave the much smaller gift income of \$3,567.73 during October. During the month of October 79 contributors of ten dollars or over gave a total of \$2,031.00, as against a total of \$5,325.00 in November given by eighty-eight contributors. Again the figures reveal that a comparatively small number are carrying the load. Think of what the other nine could do.

We here record our thanks to the friends who made the larger gifts during November. There was one gift of \$175 during October and there were three \$100 gifts, but during November we received one \$1,000 gift, three \$500 gifts, two \$200 gifts, and eleven \$100 gifts. These friends and others have helped to meet the need for a building construction deficit as stated in our LETTERGRAM. We need more in December, but we hope that it will be met by a much larger number of smaller contributors who will join in expressing their gratitude to God for His unspeakable Gift.

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The readers of NEWSLETTE are invited to attend also. Should NEWSLETTE arrive too late, come anyway, as we look for quite a number of our guests to arrive after the sixteenth. There is fellowship for all.

Solo	Charlotte Howell
Group Singing—"O Come, All Ye Faithful"	
Reading	Donna Lockard
Instrumental Trio	Hugo Gingrich, Max Boise
	Robert Smith
Scripture Reading	Norma Konves
Guest Speaker	Dr. H. E. Wright
Benediction	Prof. Fish
Accompanists were	Ruth Sutton, Maxine Lykens and William Breckbill.



MSM\$ 829.17
 Other 5,216.50
 Total Gifts for November..\$ 6,045.67
 Gifts to Date.....\$25,229.60

SCARLETS TAKE PING PONG HONORS

What happens on the volley ball courts seem to make little or no difference to the Scarlets when it comes to batting a ping pong ball back and forth across the net. The Scarlets simply take things over and turn up winners in six out of the ten matches, both finalists being from the winning side when Ed Moreland, of Wichita, Kansas, won out over his teammate, Bob Crawford, from Laporte, Indiana, in a hotly contested battle.

Despite the Scarlet victory, the total score for the year thus far still finds the Golds in the lead. But, as we suggested before, we are making no wild guesses concerning the final outcome.

THE PRAYER CLOSET

"Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." Mat. 18:19.

Please join us in thanking the Lord for:

1. The more than two hundred serious-minded and wide-awake Christian students. Most of them are surrendered for the Lord's plan in their lives.
2. The devoted staff members who are serving so sacrificially.
3. The best gift income received in many months.

Please join us in asking the Lord for:

1. A continued pre-eminent devotion to Christ and His Word, that spiritual blessings will be sought ahead of material blessings.
2. The completion of the main memorial building as a fitting memorial to William Jennings Bryan and for the accommodation of more consecrated Christian young people.
3. The even larger gift income that is needed in December. We must pay our obligations as they become due.

Christ Above All

Judson A. Rudd, LL.D.....Editor-in-Chief
 D. W. Ryther.....Managing Editor
 Lloyd E. Fish.....Business Manager

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OUR ANNUITY PLAN

Those interested in an investment of funds for time and eternity which will pay the donor a fixed rate of return during his lifetime, while helping in the Lord's work, are urged to write the William Jennings Bryan University for further information now given in "Our Annuity Gift Plan," recently issued by the University. The rates quoted are those used by the American Bible Society and agencies for various denominations.

The University is seeking Annuity Gifts to be used in the construction of homes for staff members. These attractive homes are being constructed economically on a part of Bryan Hill, which is probably the best building site in or near Dayton. We believe this plan provides a maximum of safety in these uncertain days. Interest checks are mailed promptly.

An annuity agreement makes a splendid gift on Christmas or other occasions. It offers special advantages to those having to pay Federal Income Tax. If interested, write the University at once.

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After this service, forty-six ambitious Bryanites went on a rugged hike to Laurel Falls, led by Dean Up-house. There was a lot of water this time Dorothy Allen discovered as she fell into water up to her waist.

Most of the students who stayed home that day were busy either cooking or decorating the tables. Prior to serving time, every one was invited to admire the attractive centerpiece, which expressed much originality on the part of the different committees. The first place went to the committee consisting of Nell Pearson, chairman, Gladys Jennewein, Cubie Bauer, Margaret Friedrich, Carol Russell, Ruth Sutton, and Jeannine Jones. Taking second place was Wanda Burcham's committee of Ardelle Costley, Margaret Hooks, Ruth Bunch, Donna Lockard, and Lucy Williams.

After Don Oakley gave thanks for the food, the crowd sat down to the traditional turkey 'n trimmings. Roy Clark, the toastmaster, presented the program. Jack Tate, accompanied by Della Huck, sang a solo, followed by a reading by Joel Kettenring. Just prior to the closing prayer by Rev. Herman Kcontz, William Breckbill and Ross King played "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," as a piano duet.—J. P.